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MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR
20 Union Street Augusta, Maine 04330

BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
Division of Economic Analysis and Research

LABOR MARKET DIGEST

DECEMBER 1985

A Labor Market Information Newsletter on Maine Economic Activity

THE MAINE JOB SERVICE

THE MAINE JOB SERVICE BRINGS JOBS AND PEOPLE TOGETHER. A WELL-TRAINED STAFF AND A COMPUTERIZED JOB LIST--THE MAINE JOB BANK--ARE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST APPLICANTS IN SECURING EMPLOYMENT. SINCE THE JOB SERVICE IS IN THE BUSINESS OF FINDING JOBS FOR PEOPLE AND PEOPLE FOR JOBS, THEY CAN OFFER EXPERT ADVICE. JOB SERVICE STAFF ALSO REALIZE THAT JOB HUNTERS OFTEN NEED MORE THAN JUST A REFERRAL TO AN EMPLOYER. SO THEY KEEP IN TOUCH WITH HUNDREDS OF LOCAL AGENCIES OFFERING ALL TYPES OF HUMAN SERVICES. WHETHER INDIVIDUALS NEED TRAINING, EDUCATION, TRANSPORTATION, CHILD CARE, HOUSING, MEDICAL CARE, OR COUNSELING, THE MAINE JOB SERVICE IS AVAILABLE TO REFER CLIENTS TO AN APPROPRIATE AGENCY FOR ASSISTANCE.

IN PROGRAM YEAR 1984 MAINE'S 19 LOCAL JOB SERVICE OFFICES FOUND JOBS FOR 20,739 PEOPLE. MORE THAN 80,000 PERSONS WERE INTERVIEWED, WITH MANY RECEIVING SPECIALIZED COUNSELING AND TESTING.

THE JOB SERVICE HAS BEEN HELPING MAINE CITIZENS HUNT FOR WORK FOR NEARLY HALF A CENTURY AND CONTINUES TO EXPAND ITS SERVICES TO BETTER MATCH WORKERS WITH AVAILABLE JOBS. ALL OF ITS SERVICES ARE FREE.

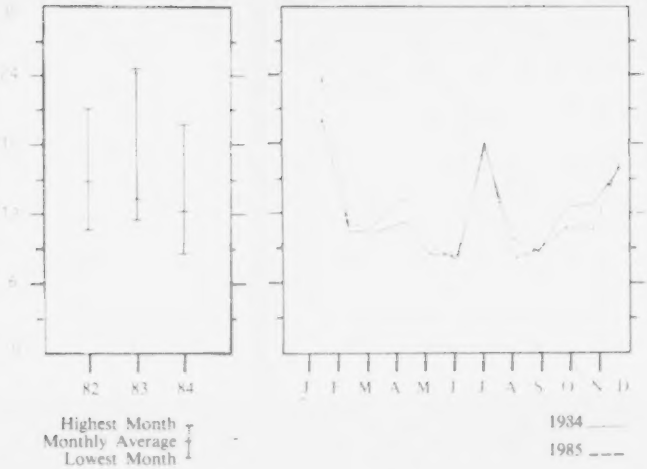
THE MAINE JOB SERVICE HELPS A WIDE VARIETY OF JOB SEEKERS...ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO NEED INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION. VETERANS, YOUTH, MINORITIES, WOMEN, HANDICAPPED INDIVIDUALS, AND OTHERS CAN RECEIVE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE. THEY ALSO HELP THOSE WHO HAVE NEVER WORKED BEFORE, AS WELL AS WORKERS WITH FEW JOB SKILLS OR LIMITED WORK EXPERIENCE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE MAINE JOB SERVICE AND HOW THEY CAN HELP BOTH EMPLOYERS AND JOB SEEKERS, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR NEAREST JOB SERVICE LOCAL OFFICE.

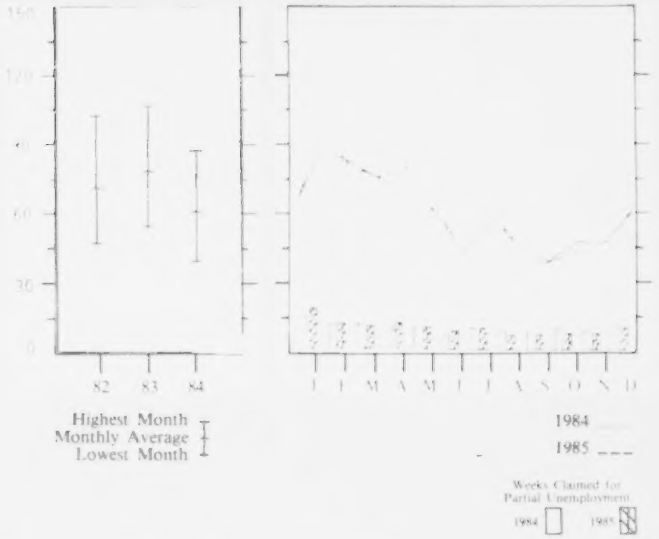
OPENINGS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE MAINE JOB SERVICE REFLECT A WIDE RANGE OF JOBS IN THE STATE'S LABOR MARKETS. THE FOLLOWING CHART SHOWS THE DISTRIBUTION OF JOB OPENINGS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE MAINE JOB SERVICE.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

UI Initial Claims
in Thousands



UI Intrastate Weeks Claimed
in Thousands



(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

OCCUPATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF JOB OPENINGS

MAINE JOB SERVICE--PROGRAM YEAR 1984

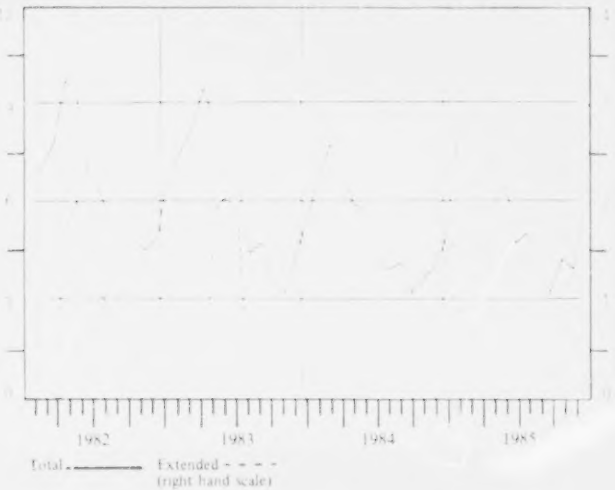
OCCUPATIONAL GROUP	NUMBER OF JOB OPENINGS RECEIVED	PERCENT OF TOTAL
TOTAL	41,457	100.0%
PROFESSIONAL, TECHNICAL, AND MANAGERIAL	1,464	3.5
CLERICAL	4,621	11.2
SALES	2,507	6.1
DOMESTIC SERVICES	564	1.4
OTHER SERVICES	9,323	22.5
AGRICULTURAL, FISHERY, AND FORESTRY	2,955	7.1
PROCESSING	2,190	5.3
MACHINE TRADES	3,326	8.0
BENCHWORK	2,542	6.1
STRUCTURAL WORK	5,975	14.4
MOTOR FREIGHT AND TRANSPORTATION	1,470	3.5
PACKAGING AND MATERIAL HANDLING	4,281	10.3
OTHER	239	0.6

Selected Employment Security Activities

UI Benefit Payments

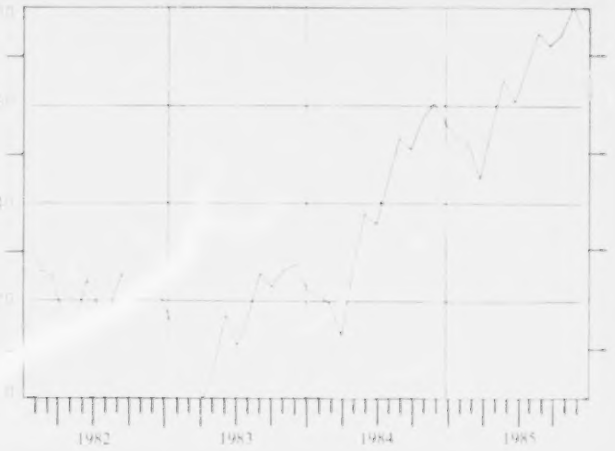
in Million Dollars

(Total Includes Maine's Portion of Extended Benefits)



Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance in Millions

(End of Month)



Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work

in Thousands

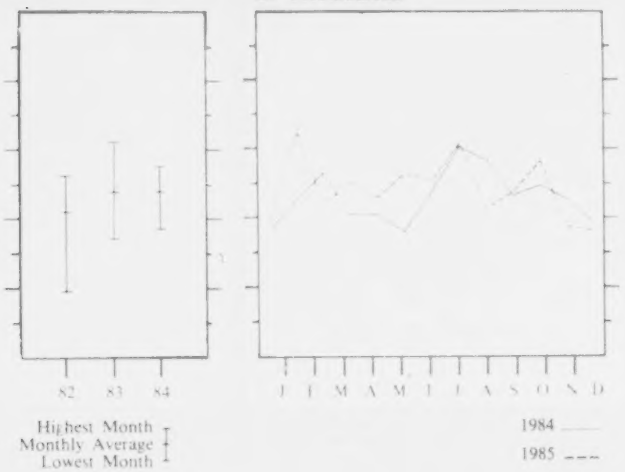
ITEM	STATEWIDE This Month	STATEWIDE Last Month	STATEWIDE Year Ago	PORTLAND MSA This Month	PORTLAND MSA Last Month	PORTLAND MSA Year Ago	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA This Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA Last Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment 1/	458.5	459.1	448.7	107.0	106.0	104.6	37.2	37.3	36.1
Total Manufacturing	104.8	104.8	109.0	16.2	16.2	16.3	10.2	10.8	10.8
Durable Goods	44.2	44.3	45.8	7.6	7.6	6.1	2.3	2.4	2.4
Lumber and Wood Products 2/	14.8	14.8	14.4	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.1
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.6	3.6	3.9	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.7
Machinery, except Electrical	3.7	3.7	4.1	1.9	1.9	2.1	0.3	0.2	0.3
Electrical and Electronic Equipment	9.4	9.4	9.9	3.1	3.1	3.4	0.7	0.8	0.9
Transportation Equipment	9.0	9.0	10.0	(d)	(d)	(d)	*	0.1	0.1
Other Durable Goods 3/	3.7	3.8	3.5	1.3	1.3	1.0	0.3	0.3	0.3
Nondurable Goods	60.6	60.5	63.2	8.4	8.4	8.2	7.9	8.4	8.1
Food and Kindred Products	7.7	7.7	8.3	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.6	0.6	0.6
Textile Mill Products	7.0	6.8	6.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.3	1.3	1.4
Apparel	4.3	4.4	4.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Paper and Allied Products	17.3	17.3	18.0	(d)	(d)	(d)	0.7	0.7	0.7
Printing and Publishing	5.0	4.8	4.7	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.6	0.6	0.6
Rubber and Misc. Plastic Products	4.3	4.2	4.1	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.9	1.9	1.7
Leather and Leather Products	13.9	14.0	15.7	1.7	1.7	1.6	2.5	2.6	2.6
Footwear (except Rubber)	11.4	11.5	13.1	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.3	2.0	2.2
Other Leather Products	2.5	2.5	2.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.6	0.6	0.6
Other Nondurable Goods 4/	1.1	1.3	1.0	4.9	4.9	4.8	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total Nonmanufacturing	353.7	354.3	339.7	90.8	90.8	88.3	27.0	26.5	25.3
Mining	0.1	0.2	0.1	*	*	*	*	*	0.0
Contract Construction	21.8	23.2	18.9	5.7	5.9	5.2	1.6	1.7	1.5
Transportation and Public Utilities	19.5	19.5	19.5	5.6	5.6	5.7	1.4	1.4	1.4
Wholesale Trade	20.8	20.8	20.2	7.9	7.9	7.7	1.9	2.0	1.9
Retail Trade	87.7	86.4	84.4	23.1	22.8	22.6	7.2	7.1	6.9
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	21.1	20.9	20.1	9.6	9.5	9.0	1.6	1.6	1.7
Services	92.8	93.2	89.4	24.0	24.0	23.4	9.2	9.3	8.7
Government	89.9	90.0	87.1	14.9	14.9	14.0	3.7	3.0	3.5
Federal	18.8	18.7	18.4	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.3	0.3	0.3
State and Local 5/	71.1	71.3	68.7	13.3	13.3	12.9	3.4	3.3	3.2
Involved in Labor-Management Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

1/ Employment figures relate to full- and part-time wage and salary workers in pay periods including the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. 2/ Lumber and wood products, and furniture and fixtures are combined in the Portland series. 3/ Includes Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: Statewide: 25, 32, 38, 39; Portland: 32, 38, 39; Lewiston: 25, 32, 39. 4/ Includes SIC codes: Statewide: 28, 29; Portland: 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30; Lewiston: 23, 28, 29. 5/ Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months. n/a - data not available in sufficient detail for publication. *Less than 100. (d) Nondisclosure item.

THESE DATA ARE COMPILED BY THE MAINE BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

New Applications For Work

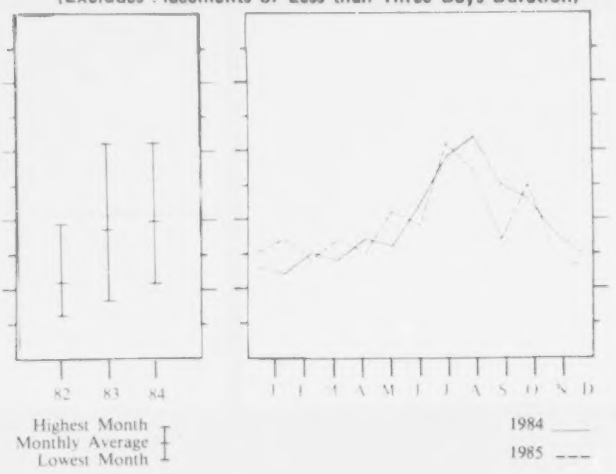
in Thousands



Nonfarm Placements

in Thousands

(Excludes Placements of Less than Three Days Duration)



Earnings and Workweek of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	1984	1983	1982
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	$362.61	$349.05	$334.96	41.3	39.8	40.7	$8.78	$8.77	$8.23	$8.05	$7.61	$7.22
Durable Goods	373.85	348.96	336.61	42.1	39.7	41.1	8.88	8.79	8.19	8.22	8.04	7.59
Lumber and Wood Products	351.10	339.56	316.65	42.2	39.3	40.7	8.32	8.64	7.78	7.57	7.37	6.87
Primary and Fabricated Metals	369.23	367.44	354.90	43.8	43.9	42.3	8.43	8.37	8.39	7.89	7.75	7.62
Machinery, except Electrical	414.29	396.45	390.29	43.2	41.6	44.2	9.59	9.53	8.83	8.36	8.08	7.52
Electrical and Electronic Equipment	296.63	280.80	306.54	37.5	38.1	39.3	7.91	7.58	7.80	7.56	7.27	6.74
Other Durable Goods	453.82	387.08	360.22	44.8	39.7	41.5	10.13	9.75	8.68	9.51	9.31	8.84
Nondurable Goods	354.09	349.52	334.53	40.7	39.9	40.5	8.70	8.76	8.26	7.95	7.37	7.00
Food and Kindred Products	250.76	245.84	241.49	36.5	36.1	36.7	6.87	6.81	6.58	6.46	6.10	5.84
Textile Mill Products	280.44	279.33	262.50	41.0	40.6	42.0	6.84	6.88	6.25	6.13	5.87	5.49
Apparel	211.68	207.77	201.96	36.0	35.7	36.0	5.88	5.82	5.61	5.55	5.39	5.23
Paper and Allied Products	584.04	594.00	547.21	46.5	45.0	46.1	12.56	13.20	11.87	11.62	10.95	10.10
Leather and Leather Products	217.62	216.71	216.94	37.2	36.3	36.4	5.85	5.97	5.96	5.80	5.59	5.46
Other Nondurable Goods	319.20	312.17	296.21	40.1	40.7	40.3	7.96	7.67	7.35	7.11	6.60	6.23
PORTLAND MSA												
Manufacturing	362.99	362.52	332.99	39.2	38.2	39.5	9.26	9.49	8.43	8.08	7.67	7.19
LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA												
Manufacturing	273.62	261.50	258.61	39.2	38.4	38.2	6.98	6.81	6.77	6.58	6.16	5.96

Female Labor Force in Maine

in Thousands

ITEM	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Labor Force	636.2	636.1	630.1
Unemployed	35.9	32.9	43.5
(Percent)	5.6	5.2	6.9
Resident Employed	934.7	923.1	897.7

U.S. Consumer Price Index

BASE PERIOD	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	Last Dec.
1967 = 100 All Items	327.4	326.6	315.5	315.5
Percent Change for Past Month			+ 0.2	
Percent Change from Last December			+ 3.8	
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago			+ 3.8	

1/ Preliminary estimate 2/ Revised

Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

in Thousands

AREA	LABOR FORCE 2			RESIDENT EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT Number			UNEMPLOYMENT Percent of Labor Force		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
MAINE Statewide	538.9	536.7	547.9	510.9	512.2	515.8	28.0	24.5	32.1	5.2	4.6	5.9
MAJOR LABOR MARKETS												
Bangor MSA	47,900	48,000	47,700	45,700	46,100	45,500	2,200	1,900	2,200	4.6	4.0	4.6
Lewiston-Auburn MSA	41,600	41,200	42,200	38,800	38,800	38,900	2,800	2,400	3,300	6.7	5.8	7.8
Portland MSA	103,900	103,500	105,500	101,000	100,700	101,800	2,900	2,800	3,700	2.8	2.7	3.5
Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA 3	105,310	104,940	103,540	102,620	101,960	98,360	2,690	2,980	5,180	2.6	2.8	5.0
OTHER LABOR MARKETS												
Augusta	30,160	29,820	30,620	28,600	28,490	29,040	1,560	1,330	1,580	5.2	4.5	5.2
Bath-Brunswick	24,740	24,670	26,240	23,770	23,800	25,230	970	870	1,010	3.9	3.5	3.8
Belfast	10,160	10,010	11,370	9,140	9,140	10,120	1,020	870	1,250	10.0	8.7	11.0
Biddeford	23,280	23,570	22,990	22,340	22,690	21,870	940	880	1,120	4.0	3.7	4.9
Boothbay Harbor-Wiscasset	8,880	9,170	8,290	8,360	8,730	7,750	520	440	540	5.9	4.8	6.5
Calais-Eastport	14,420	14,710	15,240	13,360	13,830	14,000	1,060	880	1,240	7.4	6.0	8.1
Caribou-Presque Isle	21,290	20,970	21,350	19,430	19,390	19,230	1,860	1,580	2,120	8.7	7.5	9.9
Central Penobscot	4,510	4,530	4,420	4,300	4,340	4,200	210	190	220	4.7	4.2	5.0
Dover-Foxcroft	6,570	6,460	6,810	6,220	6,150	6,420	350	310	390	5.3	4.8	5.7
Ellsworth	21,090	21,280	20,990	19,900	20,350	19,600	1,190	930	1,390	5.6	4.4	6.6
Farmington	12,800	12,420	13,350	11,910	11,560	12,310	890	860	1,040	7.0	6.9	7.8
Fort Kent-Allagash	5,910	5,880	5,970	5,480	5,510	5,510	430	370	460	7.3	6.3	7.7
Greenville	1,430	1,440	1,770	1,320	1,350	1,610	110	90	160	7.7	6.3	9.0
Houlton	5,230	5,210	5,150	4,880	4,890	4,810	350	320	340	6.7	6.1	6.6
Kittery-York 3	23,380	23,180	22,930	22,930	22,800	22,090	450	380	840	1.9	1.6	3.7
Lincoln-Howland	6,310	6,270	6,240	5,980	5,960	5,950	330	310	290	5.2	4.9	4.6
Livermore Falls	3,350	3,300	3,660	3,060	3,040	3,270	290	260	390	8.7	7.9	10.7
Madawaska-Van Buren	4,210	4,090	4,340	3,810	3,810	3,930	400	280	410	9.5	6.8	9.4
Millinocket-East Millinocket	5,470	5,430	5,480	5,220	5,220	5,250	250	210	230	4.6	3.9	4.2
Norway-Paris	8,770	8,940	9,170	8,100	8,380	8,370	670	560	800	7.6	6.3	8.7
Patten-Island Falls	2,720	2,740	2,570	2,560	2,610	2,440	160	130	130	5.9	4.7	5.1
Rockland	17,890	17,870	18,920	16,970	17,110	17,820	920	760	1,100	5.1	4.3	5.8
Rumford	9,340	9,300	9,830	8,720	8,780	9,110	620	520	720	6.6	5.6	7.3
Sanford	12,770	12,520	13,260	11,900	11,700	12,300	870	820	960	6.8	6.5	7.2
Sebago Lakes Region	9,220	9,130	8,890	8,850	8,800	8,440	370	330	450	4.0	3.6	5.1
Skowhegan	21,790	21,340	22,590	20,250	20,040	20,750	1,540	1,300	1,840	7.1	6.1	8.1
Southwest Penobscot	8,220	8,340	8,440	7,490	7,690	7,690	730	650	750	8.9	7.8	8.9
Waterville	21,640	21,460	21,820	20,580	20,480	20,640	1,060	980	1,280	4.9	4.6	5.9
OTHER NEW ENGLAND STATES												
Connecticut	n/a	1,725.8	1,703.5	n/a	1,653.2	1,624.2	n/a	73.0	79.3	n/a	4.2	4.7
Massachusetts	3,074.0	3,067.0	3,056.7	2,956.0	2,958.0	2,936.7	119.0	110.0	120.0	3.9	3.6	3.9
New Hampshire	544.4	540.0	531.1	530.5	525.7	512.7	13.9	14.4	18.4	2.6	2.7	3.5
Rhode Island	508.0	508.8	503.0	485.7	488.5	480.5	22.3	20.3	22.5	4.4	4.0	4.5
Vermont	286.2	281.9	277.3	273.3	268.9	265.4	12.9	13.0	11.9	4.5	4.6	4.3
NEW ENGLAND STATES	n/a	6,124.6	6,071.6	n/a	5,893.9	5,819.5	n/a	230.7	252.1	n/a	3.8	4.2
UNITED STATES 4	115,780	116,097	114,028	108,063	108,282	106,049	7,717	7,815	7,978	6.7	6.7	7.0

MSA Metropolitan Statistical Area

Note n/a indicates that the information was not available at the time of printing. Employment and unemployment may not add to labor force due to rounding.

Footnotes

1. Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each labor market area have been benchmarked to and extrapolated from the Current Population Survey estimates for the state. All data adjusted to place of residence basis. Excludes members of the Armed Forces.
2. Current and last month figures preliminary, year ago figures revised.
3. Kittery-York is the eight-town Maine portion of the Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA which includes towns in both Maine and New Hampshire.
4. National estimates based on a sample of household visits; state estimates based on enlargements of employment figures reported.

THESE DATA ARE COMPILED BY THE MAINE BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

Mid-Month Insured Unemployment (Less Partials)

ITEM	STATEWIDE			PORTLAND MSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Number of Continued Week Claimants	10,618	8,963	11,660	875	824	1,110	1,167	1,007	1,467
Insured Unemployment Rate *	2.4	2.1	2.7	1.0	0.9	1.3	3.3	2.9	4.3

* Should not be confused with the total unemployment rate as defined in the Employment Security Law.

Selected Characteristics Of Unemployment Insurance Claimants

REGULAR PROGRAM 1/

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY OCCUPATION

CATEGORY	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Professional, Technical, and Managerial	4.2	4.1	7.7
Clerical and Sales	9.2	10.6	16.0
Service	8.1	9.1	11.6
Agricultural, Fishery, Forestry, and Related	2.7	2.4	1.9
Processing	6.0	5.6	4.3
Machine Trades	18.4	19.7	16.0
Benchwork	17.8	21.2	15.2
Structural Work	18.4	13.9	13.2
Miscellaneous	15.2	13.0	14.1

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY AGE

CATEGORY	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Total under 40	58.2	56.3	58.3
Under 22	7.6	7.2	8.3
22-24	10.7	10.1	11.1
25-34	29.0	28.0	28.7
35-39	11.0	11.0	10.2
Total 40 and Over	41.8	43.7	41.7
40-44	8.6	9.1	7.6
45-54	13.6	13.6	12.7
55-64	10.6	10.9	9.7
65 and Over	9.0	9.7	12.3

1/ Data refers to continued claimants who received benefits under the regular state unemployment insurance program.

The Bureau of Employment Security is affiliated with the U.S. Employment and Training Administration and is a Federal-State Statistical Program Cooperative Representative of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR
20 Union Street Augusta, Maine 04330

BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
Division of Economic Analysis and Research

DECEMBER 1985

MAINE JOB SERVICE

"For Qualified Workers Contact Your Local Bureau of Employment Security Job Service Office"

Labor Market Information Services